

Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 OSLO 01601 041542Z
ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 PM-05 SS-15 NSCE-00 SP-02 L-03
INRE-00 CIAE-00 INR-10 NSAE-00 ACDA-12 TRSE-00
SSO-00 /060 W
-----103417 041547Z /46

O 041520Z APR 78
FM AMEMBASSY OSLO
TO SECDEF WASHDC IMMEDIATE
INFO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 5567

C O N F I D E N T I A L OSLO 1601

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: OVIP, NO
SUBJECT: SECDEF VISIT AND POSSIBLE SIGNATURE OF MOU

REF: STATE 084865

1. OUR DISCUSSIONS HERE WITH THE MINISTRY OF DEFENSE LEAD US
TO BELIEVE THAT THERE MUST BE SOME MISUNDERSTANDING ON THE
STATUS OF SIGNING THE MOU.

2. OUR MOD CONTACTS ASSURE US THAT UNDERSECRETARY HOLST
IN HIS DISCUSSIONS LAST WEEK WITH GENERAL BOWMAN AGREED TO
PUT OFF THE MOU SIGNING UNTIL THE DPC MEETING IN BRUSSELS.
WHEN WE EXPRESSED SURPRISE AT THIS THE MOD CHECKED WITH HOLST
(WHO IS CURRENTLY ON A VISIT TO CANADA) WHO RECONFIRMED BY CABLE
(WE HAVE SEEN IT) HIS UNDERSTANDING OF THIS AGREEMENT. HOLST'S
CABLE DATED APRIL 3RD ALSO STATES THAT THIS ARRANGEMENT HAS
BEEN CONFIRMED IN A FOLLOWUP CONVERSATION BETWEEN ROLFSEN AND
GENERAL BOWMAN ON APRIL 3RD.

3. IN LIGHT OF HOLST'S MESSAGE, THE MOD AND WE ARE SOMEWHAT AT
A LOSS TO EXPLAIN THE INFORMATION CONTAINED IN PARA 2 REFTTEL
TO THE EFFECT THAT DOD REMAINS READY AND WILLING TO PROCEED WITH THE
SIGNING OF THE MOU NEXT WEEK. WE CONTINUE TO BELIEVE
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THAT THE SIGNING WOULD OFFER A GOOD PUBLIC EVENT WITH
SUBSTANTIAL PRESS COVERAGE HERE BUT ARE UNCLEAR AS TO WHAT
PRECISELY THE COORDINATED USG VIEW IS ON THIS POSSIBILITY.

4. IF HOLST HAS MISUNDERSTOOD GENERAL BOWMAN'S POSITION
ON THE SIGNING OF THE MOU, WE RECOMMEND THAT WE BE AUTHORIZED
TO TRY TO SET THE RECORD STRAIGHT WITH THE MOD HERE ASAP.

IT MIGHT ALSO BE USEFUL IF BOWMAN COULD CONTACT HOLST DIRECTLY
IN OTTAWA TO CLARIFY THE RECORD TO AS WE ANTICIPATE THE MOD
WILL BE RELUCTANT TO OVERRULE HOLST'S RECOMMENDATION IN HIS
APRIL 3RD CABLE.
BREMER

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Message Attributes

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Draft Date: 04 apr 1978
Decaption Date: 01 jan 1960
Decaption Note:
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Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 20 Mar 2014
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
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Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
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TAGS: OVIP, NO, (BROWN, HAROLD)
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